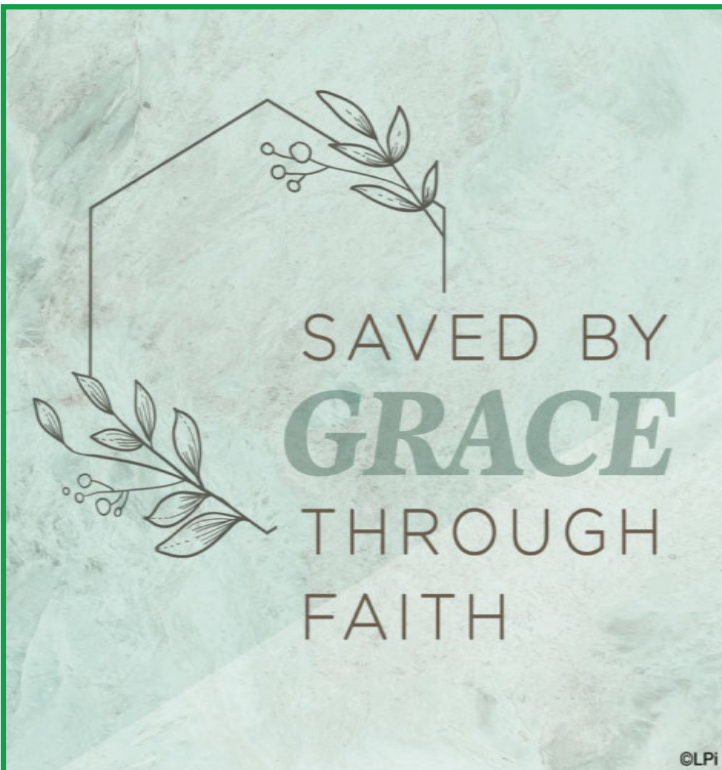




Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

July 10, 2022

Detroit, Michigan



✝ **STEWARDSHIP** ✉

What shall I render unto the Lord
for all his benefits to me?



**St. Matthew Parish Report
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022**

Budget/52 Weeks:	
@ \$2,442 (rounded)	\$127,000.12
Actual/52 Weeks:	\$94,206.93
Online Giving/52 Weeks:	<u>\$53,952.00</u>
Total Actual/52 Weeks:	\$148,158.93
Overage/Shortfall:	\$21,158.81
Average Collection/Sunday:	\$2,849.21
Average % of Budget/Sunday:	116.66%
Average % over (under)/Sunday:	16.66%
Debt Reduction Envelope/52 Weeks:	\$3,434.00
Online Debt Reduction Giving:	\$1,005.00
Total Debt Reduction Giving:	\$4,439.00
NET OVERAGE FOR 52 WEEKS:	<u>\$25,597.81</u>

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**2022-2023 Report as of July 6, 2022  
Catholic Services Appeal**

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| CSA AoD Goal:             | \$18,511.00        |
| Total Pledged:            | \$24,615.00        |
| Total Paid (July 6, 2022) | <u>\$14,974.06</u> |
| Pledge Balance:           | \$9,640.94         |
| Refund Anticipated:       | \$6,104.00         |
| Refund Issued:            | \$0.00             |
| Refund Due:               | \$0.00             |
| Average Pledge:           | \$502.35           |
| Pledges Made:             | 49                 |
| Pledges Fully Paid:       | 34                 |
| Pledges Outstanding:      | 15                 |
| Parish Families:          | 210                |

## Readings for the Week of July 10, 2022

Sunday: Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37  
or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [9]/Col 1:15-20/  
Lk 10:25-37

Monday: Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/  
Mt 10:34—11:1

Tuesday: Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/  
Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15,  
16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16/  
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday: Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 [1a]/Col 1:24-  
28/Lk 10:38-42

### 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

We can learn a great deal from Mister Rogers. Remember him? He was the gentle soul who found his way into living rooms worldwide starting as far back as 1968. Mister Rogers' Neighborhood was a beloved program that celebrated and exalted people, especially children. He taught us that we are neighbors and that everyone has a place. Everyone matters. He had a vision, born of his relationship with God that highlighted every human life's innocence, beauty, and uniqueness. To that end, he called us to be responsible for each other, saying nothing different than what Jesus said. Viewers quickly learned that life is not just about me.

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes (Fred Rogers)." It is so easy to look the other way. After all, I'm not the one who needs to leave home out of fear and try to find somewhere safe. I am not the one who is hungry and without shelter or food. I am not the one who has a child being bullied or ridiculed because of the way they dress or act. I am not the one being threatened with violence or unable to find meaningful work. The distress and agony of our neighbors are our distress and agony. We cannot walk by it with an attitude of indifference, especially if we call ourselves believers. When we no longer care, we have suffocated our souls. This is a great sin.

God's law "is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." We all have a need for love and acceptance. That's why Mister Rogers' television show was so popular. It spoke to something deeper, something sacred about humanity. God didn't give us his law in a book. He wrote it on our hearts. We know what we need to do. It's a matter of choice. Love is sacred. When we love another human being, especially without regard for ourselves, it is a holy moment. These moments are often missed due to our self-serving agendas and rules.



### From Father Duane's Desk

I want to write today reflecting on both temporal and pastoral issues. First the temporal. As you can see in our 4th quarter Smiley Face report, we have a big smile to share. Remember this report is only focusing on the weekly Sunday collection. This is not a full financial picture. I will share a year-end report with you on Stewardship Sunday in September. But this report is very good. In fact, our coverage in Sunday collections of \$25,597 is \$5,000 more than last year at this time. To this I can only say thank you! You have put a smile on my face!

The weekly collection is the back bone of any parish's finances. CSA coverage, fundraisers, and extra donations are all good, and we need all of that to keep ourselves sustainable, but the Sunday collection is critical, and you have been so very generous. I pray we will be able to maintain our success.

The reason this collection is so important is despite all our fundraising efforts and with the generous Sunday collections, we still need to call back money from our savings to "balance our budget" and pay our bills. In fact, we projected that we would have to call back \$110,000 to meet our '20 / '21 budget that just ended June 30th. However, due to successful fundraisers and your Sunday generosity, we only had to call back \$72,000 for operating expenses. Everyone is doing a great job. But the problem is fewer people are raising more money. The only way we can close our overall deficit and produce a balanced budget is to enlarge our Sunday attendance.

I am asking every one to make a concerted effort this year to bring a family or a friend to St. Matthew and try to get them to join the parish. I know there are a lot of people who have fallen away and don't attend Mass anymore. We can be wonderful evangelizers and help to build up the community which in turn will make us stronger.

I know it is not easy, but it is a work that must be done. We want to continue to be a beacon of light and a sign of hope to help people grow closer to our Savior, Jesus the Christ. We can best start by having people experience the warmth of our community, the wonderful and prayerful liturgies, and to feed them on the Word of the Lord. The rest will work itself out. As we pray for vocations in this coming year, let us also add a request for new members. Again, thanks for the smile!

Now on a pastoral note, as you undoubtedly know, the US Supreme Court overturned Roe v Wade. Although it is a step in the right direction, it does not seem to resolve the issue. Now every state in the Union will have to decide which way they will go. Will the state of Michigan retain its default law as an anti-abortion state? Or will a new state law identify us as an abortion state?

There are petitions being circulated to further an initiative to "set in concrete" within our state constitution "a right to abortion." Not only for Michigan Catholics but for all people of good will, this should be concerning. The ballot initiative proposal led by Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union **should not be signed**. Know what you are being asked to sign before any action is taken.

*(Continued on Page 3)*



## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, July 23, and Sunday, July 24,  
4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively -  
Mission Co-op Sunday, Propagation of the Faith,  
Collection



### From Father Duane's Desk

(Cont'd from Page 2)



The efforts to change our Michigan anti-abortion law will be great. But we can counter it by communicating our love, concern, hope, support, and encouragement to those who would seek such a procedure.

To that end, I am enclosing an MCC Focus article on "How Catholics Walk with Moms in Need." Fear often-times drives mothers to make decisions that may be inappropriate or regretful afterwards. We need to get the message out that there is hope and fear can be diminished.

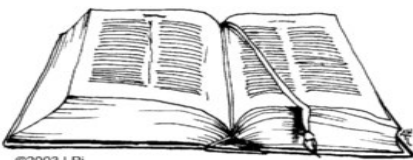
The USCCB recently re-iterated our core focus related to abortion:

*"As Catholics, we care about every unborn child and every mother. Our church has consistently witnessed in word and deed that life begins at the moment of conception. As the bishops shared in our statement standing with Moms in Need; we pledge 'to re-double our efforts to accompany women and couples who are facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies, and during the early years of parenthood, offering them loving and compassionate care through initiatives such as walking with Moms in Need and countless others.'"*

Even our own local efforts in supplying Pregnancy Aid with much needed supplies supports life. Last week in The Pulse you saw how just this one agency that we work with walks with Moms; 532 Moms helped, 205 ultra-sounds, 358 cans of formula, maternity clothes, diapers, etc. It all brings hope to frightened moms in their time of need.

I ask you to continue to pray that our state makes the right decision — "Right to Life."

God bless all of you,  
Father Duane



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## A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Children learn by watching us. Do they see you helping others like the Good Samaritan, or do they see you avoiding others like the Levite in today's Gospel? Worry more about what your children see in YOUR LIFE than what they see on TV.

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Stories from the CSA - Michael Bruno Selvaraj, Seminarian, Sacred Heart Major Seminary.

Michael Bruno is in his third year of theological formation at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. Michael grew up in a small town in India where he attended a Catholic elementary school as well as a Catholic university which earned him a degree in information technology. However, it was not until he began to think about which professional career he might choose that he began to consider the priesthood as an option.

In 2014, Michigan found himself in the United States pursuing a second masters' degree. He found a spiritual home in St. Fabian in Farmington Hills. He began to spend time volunteering and serving at his parish and was later encouraged to attend a discernment weekend.

Michael is grateful for the opportunity to give an authentic, wholehearted yes to God with his life. Men like Michael who wish to give their lives in service of the Gospel are a powerful witness in a world with a self-serving culture. More than ever, the world needs the witness of joyful and holy priests who love Jesus and his people.

*Your gift to the CSA supports more than 225 men and women pursuing a life of service to Christ and his Church as lay ecclesial ministers, deacons, and priests.*

### Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

Give comfort to those who suffer  
because of the violence.

Give comfort to those who mourn their dead,  
and strength to neighboring countries  
to welcome the refugees.

Convert the hearts of those who resort to arms  
and protect those who work to promote peace.

God of hope, inspire leaders to choose peace instead of  
violence and to seek reconciliation with enemies.

Inspire compassion in the universal Church  
for the Ukrainian people and give us hope  
for a future of peace based on justice for all.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace  
and Light of the World. Amen.

15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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### WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Saturday                   | 4:30 p.m.              |
| Sunday                     | 10:00 a.m.             |
| Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday | 9:00 a.m.              |
| Reconciliation             | By Appointment         |
| Holydays                   | 9:00 a.m.<br>7:00 p.m. |

*In your prayers...*

*Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.*

Anthony Mastronardi  
Stephanie Smith  
Janet Law  
Laura Alix  
Jo Marie Nardi  
Anthony Crimauco  
Rosemary Schoolcraft  
Tiffany Gelle  
Pauline Williams  
Eloise Parker  
Herb Damman  
Sarah Wagner  
Albert Fajardo  
Aurora Guinto  
Jesse Ocampo  
Mary Spansky  
Mike Dulapa  
Kathy Bush  
Richard Goll  
Kristen Freiburger

Joanne Papineau  
Elsa Camazzola  
William Walker IV  
Nancy Clemons  
Madeline Jozwiak  
Robert Rabe  
Lynn Simoncini  
Joan Nardi



# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

Saturday, July 16, 2022, 4:30 p.m.  
Dan McBride

Sunday, July 17, 2022, 10:00 a.m.  
Bryan Jones

## SERVERS

Bruce Campbell

Lauren Gross  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, July 9 - Vigil: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - Amy Marie Lisiecki

**Sunday, July 10 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - The Misuraca Family

**Monday, July 11 - St. Benedict, Abbot**

**Tuesday, July 12 -**  
9:00 a.m. - For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

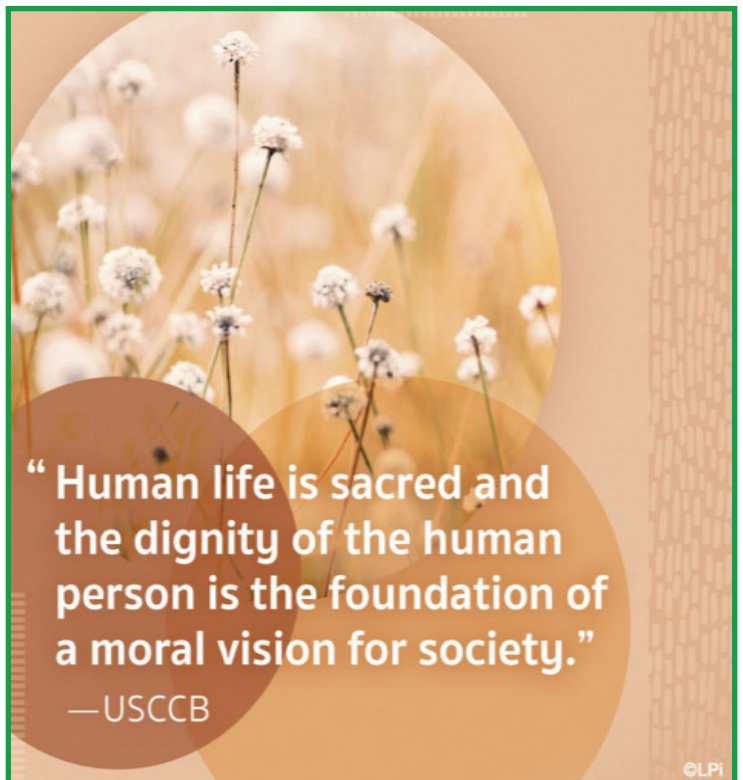
**Wednesday, July 13 - St. Henry**  
9:00 a.m. - For First Responders and Healthcare Workers

**Thursday, July 14 - St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin**

**Friday, July 15 - St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**  
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Saturday, July 16 - Vigil: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - Tim Fitzgerald

**Sunday, July 17 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - Robert Stark



“Human life is sacred and the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society.”

—USCCB

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